

# Reformation and Counter Reformation

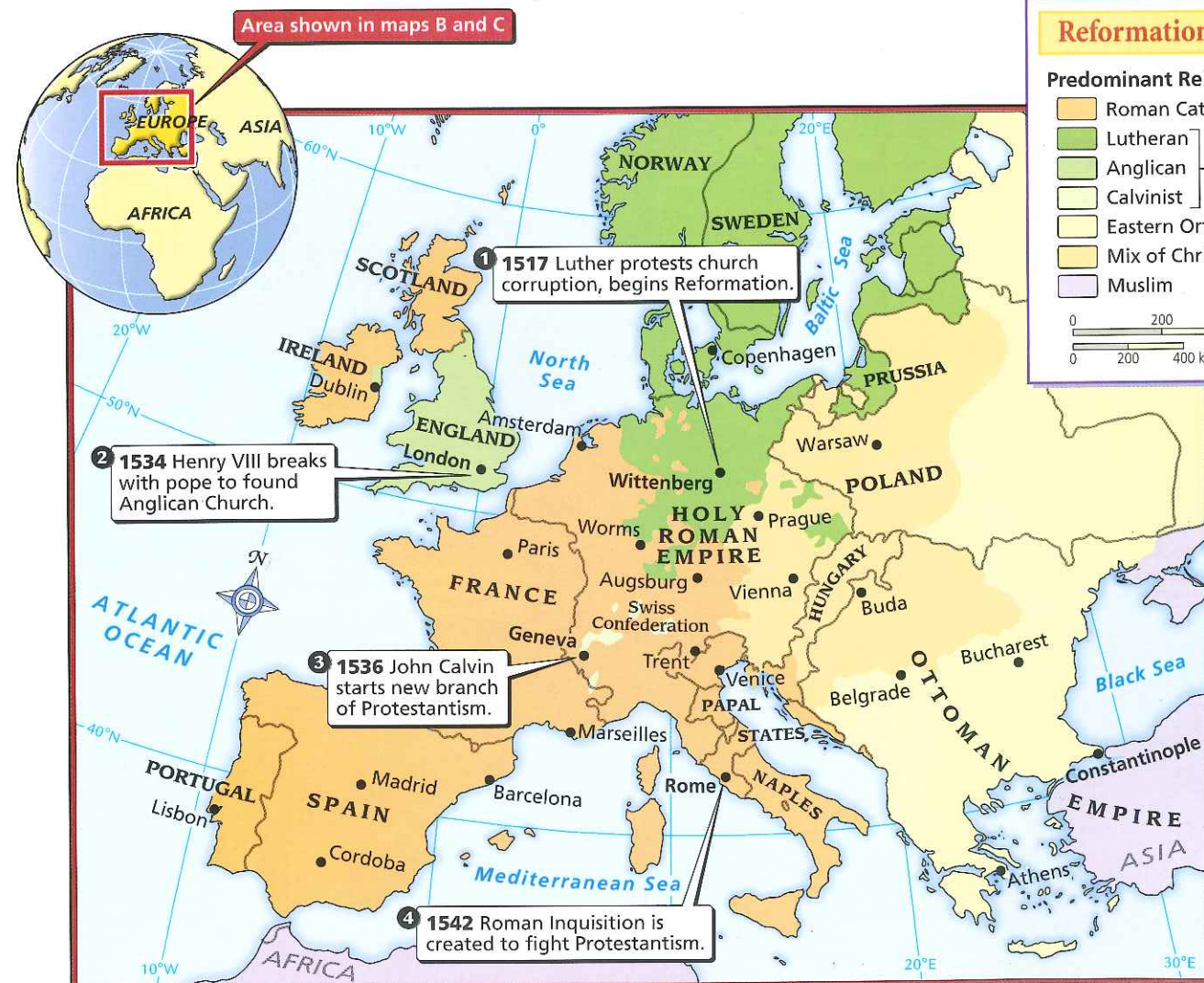
During the Reformation, Western Christianity split into two separate religious groups: Roman Catholics and Protestants.

- In 1517 Martin Luther, a Catholic monk, began the **Reformation**, a movement to reform the Roman Catholic Church.
- Like Luther, most reformers wanted to change the Catholic Church. Instead their efforts led to the creation of separate **Protestant** churches.
- Conflicts between Catholics and Protestants caused wars throughout Europe.

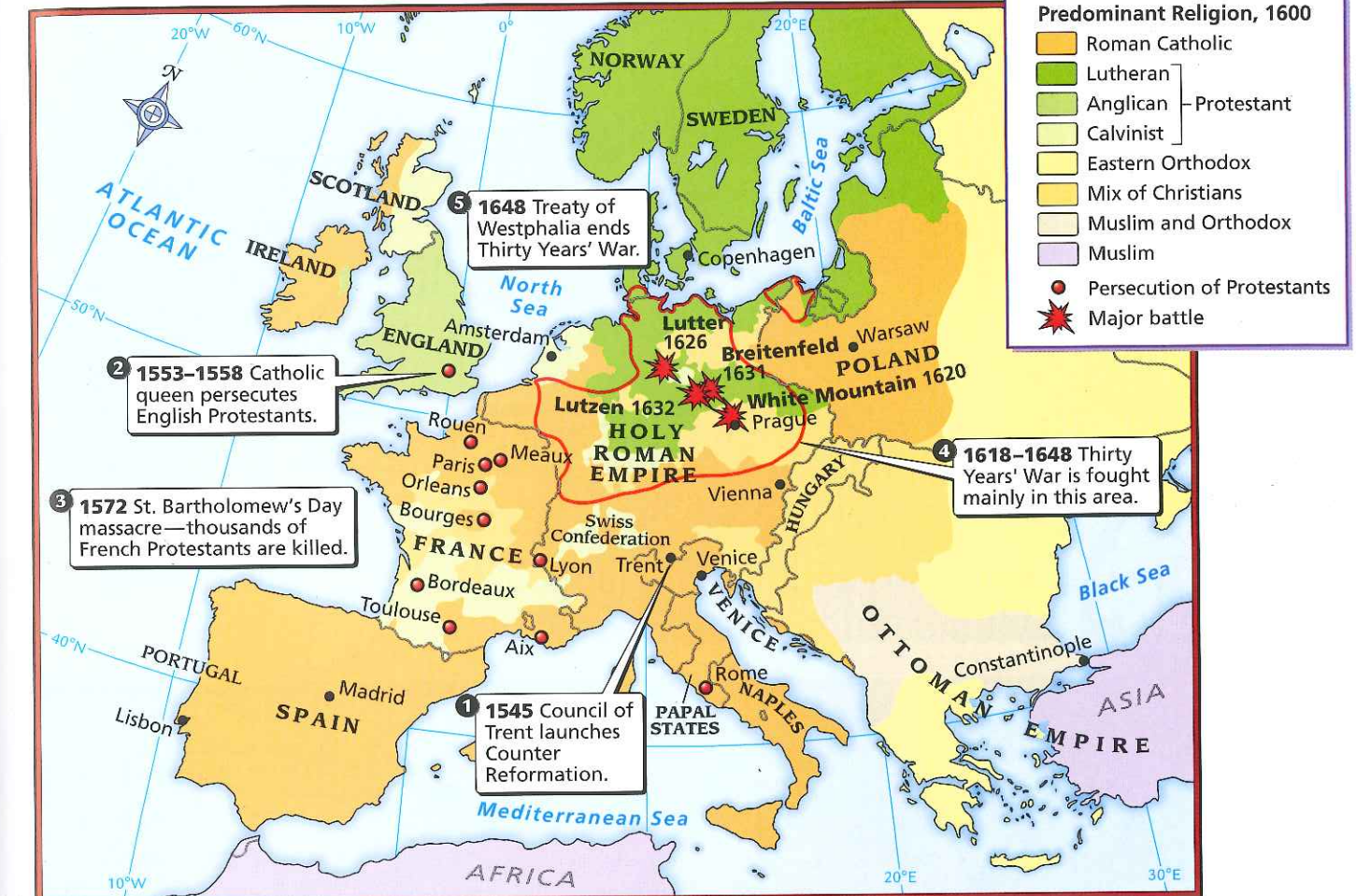
## What were they protesting?

Protestants got their name from protesting, or speaking out against, the authority of the Catholic Church. Protestantism is the name for most non-Catholic and non-Orthodox Christian churches.

**A** Martin Luther's criticisms changed Christian practices. The swan in this portrait of Luther is a symbol of religious reform.



**B** Lutheran, Calvinist, Anglican, and other Protestant churches rapidly gained followers. Which regions had become mostly Protestant by 1560?



**C** Catholic efforts to stop the spread of Protestantism became known as the Counter Reformation. Religious conflicts and land disputes erupted into the Thirty Years' war.



**D** Catholic leaders made it a crime to print or read Protestant books. Forbidden books were burned in public.

## Major Christian Churches, 1600

Church	Began	Key Figure	Leadership
Eastern Orthodox	1st century*	Peter	Patriarchs and Bishops
Roman Catholic	1st century*	Peter	Pope, Cardinals, Bishops
Lutheran	1530	Martin Luther	Pastors
Anglican	1534	Henry VIII	King of England
Calvinist	1536	John Calvin	Elected councils

\*1054 Christianity splits into two churches: Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic.

**E** The major Christian churches survived the Reformation and Counter Reformation. They still exist today, either with the same names or as the foundations of more recent churches.